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VOL. XXXII—No. 11445

MAY SUCCEED IN PREVENTING REPUBLIC

Premier of China Takes Determined Stand — Rebels Lack Funds—700 Soldiers Guarding Lanchau Arsenal Mutiny — Armistice Again Observed at Hankow.

PEKIN, Jan. 2.—The feeling in Pekin to-night is that the throne has taken on a new lease of life. Indeed there are some competent observers, who believe that Premier Yuan Shih Kai is still determined that he can succeed in preventing the consummation of a republic.

The imperial cabinet has accepted the resignation of Tang Shao Yi, who was sent to Shanghai as the representative of Premier Yuan Shih Kai and the imperialists at the peace conference between the representatives of both parties there. The government has also telegraphed to Wu Ting Fang, the leader of the revolutionaries at the peace conference, stating that in future it will negotiate telegraphically. The government is of the opinion that Tang Shao Yi went beyond his instructions when he signed the agreement as to the calling of the national convention to decide on the future form of government of China with Fu Ting Fang.

The premier adheres to two points of his original suggestion regarding the national convention, namely, that he insists on the proper selection of delegates to the national assembly and also that its gathering place shall be Peikin.

Premier Wanted to Resign.

Premier Yuan Shih Kai again offered his resignation this morning, but it was not accepted. The court also received a round robin from the generals commanding the imperialistic troops in the vicinity of Pekin, in which they demanded that the prince of the imperial clan should withdraw their wealth from the safety of the foreign banks, where much of it has been placed quite recently, and it into the hands of the war office.

Prince Ching, the former premier and foreign minister, received a letter today on behalf of the Manchu troops in the vicinity of Pekin, threatening to destroy his palace unless it was delivered over to them.

When negotiating recently for a man, Yuan Shih Kai explained that he had been negotiating my education again, but I will say this: That when I have any announcement to make, I will make it publicly. I will not discuss these rumors. I have nothing to say on anything. The peace banquet, with its strong arm squad preserving peace presented an opportunity the other day—but I am not discussing rumors and reports."

Trans-Persian Railroad

LONDON, Jan. 2.—British French and Russian bankers are to hold a meeting in Paris during the coming week to organize a syndicate with a capital of \$500,000 to carry out a survey of a proposed trans-Persian railroad. Great Britain and Russia have both already approved of the scheme, altho the precise route to be taken by the railroad remains to be decided.

The proposal contemplates the construction of a line from the port of Balak in Russian Transcaucasia on to Astara, on the Caspian Sea, and to Teheran, the capital of Persia. From that point it will pass thru the Province of Kerman, then northwest of Persia on to Gwensar, on the Arabian Sea. It will continue thru Baluchistan and then connect with the Indian railroads going to Kurrachee.

ROOSEVELT MAY SEEK ELECTION

Ex-President Coqueting With Destiny — Will Neither Confirm Nor Deny the Rumor.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—With a general refusal to "confirm or deny any rumor," Col. Theodore Roosevelt declined to-day to discuss a report that a movement was afoot in New Jersey to place his name on the presidential primary ballots. The former president was asked if he had been approached by anyone of consequence or authority in New Jersey politics with a view to having his name placed on the ballots.

"That necessarily involves a definition of the phrase 'anyone of consequence or authority,'" he replied. "I must decline to confirm or deny any reports or rumors of this sort."

The Colonel is Foxy.

"Have you taken any steps, colonel, to have your name removed from the primary ballots in Nebraska?" he was asked.

"I have taken no steps one way or the other."

"A despatch from Washington says that you have made known to President Taft, thru a friend, your unwillingness to say that you will, under no circumstances, accept the nomination next June. Is this true?"

"I haven't seen the story," Colonel Roosevelt answered. "I suppose I have been neglecting my education again, but I will say this: That when I have any announcement to make, I will make it publicly. I will not discuss these rumors. I have nothing to say on anything. The peace banquet, with its strong arm squad preserving peace presented an opportunity the other day—but I am not discussing rumors and reports."

Not Doing Any Talking.

"It is reported that you will have an important announcement to make at a dinner Friday night."

"To electrify the situation?" interrupted the colonel. "No, I have no dinner engagement for Friday. I'm still not hungry."

Gifford Pinchot is quoted this morning as saying that you had told him that you would not accept the nomination, altho you thought you could be elected. Do you wish to deny this?"

"I haven't seen the statement," said Col. Roosevelt. "But I'll wager he didn't make it. Three times within the past few weeks he has been misquoted. I wrote to him twice and each time he hadn't said what he was quoted as saying. So you see, I can't discuss it."

Rebels Lack Funds.

It is believed here that the lack of funds among the rebels has inspired their haste in settling the date for the national convention.

Seven hundred soldiers guarding the Lanchau arsenal mutinied to-day. They are part of the imperial government troops, among whom there has been a movement for some time past in favor of a republic. The commanding officer fled to Kalping, from which point he sent a message to the railway authorities at Tientsin warning

Continued on Page 7, Column 1.

London Asylum on Fire BUT PATIENTS RESCUED

DAMAGE, WHICH WILL PROBABLE NOT EXCEED \$20,000, WAS CONFINED TO THE THEATRE OF THE MAIN BUILDING.

LONDON, Ont., Jan. 2.—Fire, which broke out to-night in the kitchen of the main building of the London Asylum, destroyed the theatre with damage of about \$20,000.

The fire was discovered at 10:30 o'clock, and the London brigade responded.

One hundred and fifty patients are housed in this building and all were brought to the lower floor, but they were in no serious danger at any time.

There were 100 patients in the asylum, the remainder being housed in the infirmary and the north wing, neither of which was touched by the flames.

The flames were quickly brought under control by the firemen.

Considerable excitement was caused here when the first news of the fire came, as telephone communication

BIG FIRE AT MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, Jan. 2.—Fire broke out in the kitchen of the Strathearn Cafe to-day and spread rapidly to the surrounding buildings.

The grocery store of Gravel Freres on the corner of McGill College-avenue and St. Catharine-street was the first to fall a prey to the flames, and from there the fire worked its way into the establishment of Alex. Nelson & Sons, from which it went to the tailoring establishment of Wills and Wills.

It took about three quarters of an hour to get the flames under control and it is estimated that the damage done will amount to between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

ANOTHER NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION



Old Man Ontario swears off again, and indulges in a "dry" shampoo.

CONDUCTOR BADLY HURT NEAR SCENE OF TRAGEDY

Peter Benjamin, Survivor of Christ-mas Eve Disaster, Knocked Down by Car.

Apparently in the grip of a "hoodoo" when in the neighborhood of the King-street car barns, Peter Benjamin, the conductor of the ill-fated car, which ran amuck near the barns on Christmas Eve with such disastrous results, was himself knocked down by a car last night and seriously injured.

The accident occurred about 8:30 p.m. on King-street, at the east end of the barn and within 100 yards east of the scene of the tragedy on Dec. 24.

Benjamin, according to the statement of eye-witnesses, came down River-street and was about to cross King-street, when a Carlton car, in charge of Motorman Edward Chambers, approached, going west. Benjamin hesitated for a moment in crossing the street, but evidently changed his mind about waiting, for he stepped right in front of the car, which struck him and knocked him down.

Car Stopped Promptly.

The car, which was not going at any great rate of speed, was stopped immediately. The unfortunate man, when picked up, was found to be unconscious. He had wounds on the face and forehead, and was suffering from concussion of the brain. The police ambulance was called and he was taken to his home, at 29 Kintyre-ave. According to Dr. Belfrey, who was called to attend him, the injured man, the likely to recover, will not be out of danger for several days.

One of the officials at the car barns saw the accident, but doesn't know how Benjamin managed to get in front of the car.

"He saw it coming alright," said the official, "for he stopped, apparently to let it pass. Then he started again and the car struck him."

Benjamin was not on duty when the accident occurred.

WILL INVESTIGATE G. T. P.

MONTREAL, Jan. 2.—(Special)—Al-though the statement has been made that F. P. Guelphus, general superintendent of the C.P.R.'s eastern division, will not take charge of the L.C.R., it is understood that he will join the government's railway department in an advisory capacity and will be chairman of the committee to investigate the Grand Trunk Pacific construction matters.

The London Daily Mail Says:

"Passers-By" is a play that one can see again and again. Its exquisitely human story appeals with more fascination than any success seen in England this season. Mr. Charles Chapman and Mr. Haddon Chambers are both to be congratulated. "Passers-By" is at the Princess next week with the New York company.

THE BIG FUR SALE.

There is a splendid display of furs in the big Dineen show-rooms, consisting entirely of the holiday stock left over after Christmas selling. Every article of fur is reduced in price—all new made into garments on the premises. Prices that invite buying.

Premier and Public Phones

The action of British Government in taking over the control of the telephone systems throughout the United Kingdom does not seem to have aroused any feelings of intense emotion in the breast of Sir James Whitely.

Nor is there much likelihood of the public taking any active attitude in following the British Government's example by grabbing the telephone systems of Ontario.

"I don't think there's any reason for us to think of following Great Britain's example in this regard."

"Why the government-owned telegraph system in England is run at a deficit—about \$1,000,000 per annum at present."

"Of course," added the premier, "we are keeping our eyes open to all that is going on. These new departures are interesting."

Transfers Made in Anglican Charges

Rev. R. B. Grobb goes to Peterboro and Rev. W. L. Armitage comes to St. Mark's.

After the meeting of the Anglican Synod yesterday, the following appointments were announced:

Rev. R. B. Grobb, rector of the Church of the Epiphany, Toronto, to be rector of All Saints' Church, Peterboro.

Rev. W. L. Armitage of Picton, to be rector of St. Mark's Church, corner Connolly and Ford-sts., to succeed Rev. R. Seaborne, who resigned recently.

Rev. W. H. Bayley of the diocese of Nebraska, to be rector at Elmville, Ont.

Rev. T. S. Wallace of Woodstock will on Sunday take up his charge at St. Stephen's Church, from which Rev. Canon Broughall resigned recently.

Galt Hotel Sold.

GALT, Jan. 2.—Mr. Joseph Beer of this town has sold the Simcoe Hotel on East King-st., Hamilton, to Messrs. John G. Gould and W. Biggar of that city, for \$10,000.

LIMITING SHIPMENTS.

The letter contained directions limiting the total shipments for the week of June 26, 1897, to 22,277,023 pounds of fresh meat, of which 2,000,000 pounds went to Boston, and 712,912 to Pitts-

burgh.

Several similar letters were intro-

duced by the government, and it was

pointed out that they were all unsig-

ned and in the form Henry Veeder testi-

fied the packers' letters were written.

After Attorney Butler had ques-

tioned Henry Veeder, secretary of the

packers' pools, regarding the details of

the combinations from May, 1898, to

July 1, 1902, when the witness said the

last fresh meat pool dissolved and he

sawed his connection with the pack-

ers, the government attorney sprung a

surprise on the defendants by reading

the letters and offering them in evi-

dence.

License Commissioner May Resign.

KINGSTON, Jan. 2.—(Special)

—Altho no resignations have been handed in as yet, it is understood that one out of the three members of the board of license commissioners will resign as a result of the verdict given by the people to cut off ten hotels. H. W. Richardson, the chairman, declared to-day that there had been no resignations as yet. R. E. Burns and J. P. Hanley are the other members.

It is believed that the next move of the Social and Moral Reform League will be to have the license fee increased from \$300 to \$750.

Local men feel their defeat keenly, but have nothing to say. There is great anxiety now as to which hotels will be cut off. The bylaw favoring reduction was given a majority of 106.

NEW POLICY FOR TEMPERANCE FORCES

Futility of Efforts to Carry Local Option in Cities and Large Towns Means That License Reduction Slogan Will Be Adopted—Hard to Make Headway.

Some of the representative Toronto temperance men, sizing up the Ontario situation, in view of the results on Monday, take the view that there will only be one more round fought on a provincial scale by the Ontario Alliance on local option lines. That will take place next January. After that a new plan of campaign will have to be adopted by the alliance, or the drys will have to go on the defensive.

The position taken in well informed temperance circles is that the territory in which the adoption of local option by a three-fifths majority is likely in Ontario is now very limited, and will be exhausted by another general engagement.

Reverses in Centres. Where important urban municipalities were attacked, not only did the local option bylaws fail to get a three-fifths majority, but they were voted down in straight majorities. It is recognized by the drys that the movement from the rural municipalities to the cities is not favorable to the adoption of drastic prohibitory liquor legislation. Men who have been in the fight and have given the outlook thought say that the course which the alliance will take is already marked out by the logic of events, and that it will take the form of a license reduction and earlier closing movement.

The alliance had one of its organizers, Dr. McTavish, assisting in the license reduction movement which has just cut off 10 licenses at Kingston.

Temperance Well Organized. The alliance was never in such good fighting trim as it has become during the past three years under the leadership of Rev. Ben H. Spence. He has now a staff of effective speakers and organizers, an alliance weekly paper, with a big circulation, and he is successful in securing ample campaign funds each year.

There is a quiet tilt going around that a movement will be gradually developed in Toronto for earlier closing of the liquor shops and bars and that it will be championed in due time, by Controller McCarthy and Ald. Austin.

Hard Row to Hoe. There are nominally 175 municipalities where local option contests could be brought on next January, but most of them are hard places from the alliance standpoint or else are too sparsely settled for organization purposes.

Additional returns received yesterday of the local option votes leave the net

Continued on Page 2, Column 2.

POLICE CENSUS SUNDAY, JAN. 21